

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) applauded the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on the recent announcement that their Mobile Vet Center will be making regular visits to Charlotte Hall, Maryland, to provide a variety of services to local Veterans. The three primary functions of Vet Centers are outreach, direct service delivery, and referral.

“Vet Centers are an important resource for our veterans who are seeking a range of services or who need information or help with VA programs,” **stated Congressman Hoyer**. “I am pleased that the resources Vet Centers provide are now available in Southern Maryland, where so many veterans live.”

Over the past two years, the enrolled veteran population in Southern Maryland has increased by 13 percent and is expected to continue expanding as outreach efforts continue to strengthen and Southern Maryland continues to be the state’s fastest growing region. In addition to many other benefits, the Mobile Vet Center will provide to those local veterans and their families readjustment counseling services to combat veterans and their spouses, VA healthcare enrollment, linkage to job resources, housing, financial services, referrals to veteran service organizations (VSOs) for claims support, ordering documents/records, and referrals for discharge upgrades.

“In August, I was pleased to host a meeting that brought together U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki, residents and staff from Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, local veteran service organization leaders, and Fifth District veterans, for a discussion on the needs of Southern Maryland veterans,” **continued Hoyer**. “One of the things we discussed was the need for a Vet Center here in Southern Maryland that could work in concert with the VA’s Charlotte Hall Community-Based Outpatient Clinic. While I appreciate VA bringing the Mobile Vet Center to Southern Maryland, I will continue to push for a more permanent, long-term solution to improve the access to services here at Charlotte Hall.”

Effective immediately, the Veteran’s Administration’s Mobile Vet Center will be available for Southern Maryland citizens on the last Thursday and Friday of each month through 2011 (in November, the Center is scheduled for Nov. 17-18 due to the Thanksgiving holiday and in December, the scheduled days are Dec. 15-16 due to the Christmas holiday). The Mobile Vet Center will be parked at the St. Mary’s County Welcome Center (37575 Charlotte Hall School Road) in Charlotte Hall near the Charlotte Hall Veteran’s Home. Staff will be available on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on the Veteran's Administration, [click here](#) .